

- Application No. 10/623,430
- Amendment dated June 3, 2005
- Reply to Office Action of May 3, 2005

REMARKS

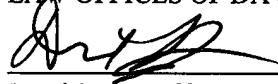
In response to the Notice of May 3, 2005, in which claims 9 and 21-26 were objected to, claim 9 has been amended to clarify the relation to the distal end, and claims allowable 21-26 have been canceled and rewritten as claims 42-47, respectively, incorporating all base and any intervening claims. In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application and allowance of all of the claims are respectfully requested. If any issues remain which can be resolved by a supplemental response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

It is not believed that any additional fees are due; however, in the event of any additional fees are due, the Examiner is authorized to charge the enclosed credit card listed on the enclosed authorization form.

Respectfully submitted,

LAW OFFICES OF DAVID L. HOFFMAN

Date: June 3, 2005



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Encls.

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David L. Hoffman, Reg. No. 32,469

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Date